

under the superintendence of 1,500 missionaries on the field, aside from the staff of secretaries and others at home. The results secured by this money appear to be out of all proportion to the efforts put forth. It is no slight thing to gather a million and a half of communicants out of the communities of India, Africa, Japan, China, and other lands; to organize and conduct several thousand schools of every grade; to establish hospitals and dispensaries in lands where medicine has been identified with the crudest superstitions; and to be the medium of distribution of large sums of money and to conduct relief works for those who are stricken with famine and pestilence.

This is from a weekly paper of importance; the following is from a daily of high rank, the *New York Evening Post*:

In the light of the great achievements of missionary zeal and sacrifice, the candid observer can reach only one conclusion. He must grant that the tremendous ethical impulse now visible among once degraded peoples is largely due to the teachings of the missionaries. As a mere business proposition in the interest of good morals, if we may argue from the lower to the higher plane, missions are paying investments.

The Knots Were Loosed

Christian Budget.

An Indian woman in describing her state before she accepted Christ, said: "I was like a spool of thread that had been all wound off and tangled up; so I brought my tangled self to Jesus, and he loosed the knots and made the twisted threads straight."

He will do the same for us when our lives get twisted and tangled and when the hard knots of life's difficulties resist all our efforts.

Facts

C. and M. Alliance.

One million persons have been won to Christ in India, 350,000 in Africa, 75,000 in China, 40,000 in Japan. In the South Sea Islands, fifty years ago most of the people were savage cannibals; today Christianity is the prevailing religion. Notwithstanding this progress, we are told more than half of mankind are living in barbarism or savagery.

Convincing Proof

Selected.

A visitor to the Hawaiian Islands a few years ago said to Kamehameha V, Well, really, now, don't you think things are in a worse condition than before the advent of the missionaries?"

"I leave you to judge," answered the king. "Since you have come into my presence you have broken the ancient law of *tabu* in three ways. You walked into my presence instead of crawling on your hands and knees; you crossed my shadow; you are even now sitting in my presence. In the old days any one of these things would have cost your life." It is scarcely necessary to add that the visitor was effectually silenced.

Objections Against Foreign Missions Answered

Western Advocate.

1. Plenty of work at home.

Answer: This missionary spirit does both home and foreign work.

2. Heathen minds too full of ignorance and superstition to be changed.

Answer: What the gospel does for a hardened American proves that it can save any one.

3. To what purpose is all this waste?

Answer: So with Mary's alabaster box; but success is a reply.

4. Money never gets to heathen; one paper, within thirty miles, said two weeks ago that only ten per cent. reaches its destination.

Answer: "I suppose that this is the first lie a newspaper ever told!" Seriously it is a slander. Of \$583,000 administered by the Presbyterian Board, the cost for secretarial services, sending funds, etc., was but four per cent. To shut the mouth of this objection a special fund was raised by the American Board to bear such expenses, so that one hundred per cent. of every dollar given goes to the fields.

5. Heathen will be saved, anyhow.

Answer: The Bible does not so teach; they are not saved now; Paul inspired went to the heathen; Jesus says, "Go."

6. Heathen happy enough.

Answer: If they were, as they are not, this would be no argument. A man who is freezing to death is comfortable.

7. Few conversions.

Answer: Not so. Better proportionate gain than at home. In South India in two years an advance from 95,000 to 300,000.

8. Takes injurious influences.

Answer: It counteracts such, exerted by some foreigners.

9. Increases responsibility of heathen.

Answer: Rather increases their opportunity and privilege.

10. Impossibility of cultured Christians coming into close sympathy with heathen.

Answer: Not so. See the refined Christ; see devoted missionaries, beloved.

Christian Life

Not to be Ministered To

MALTBIE D. BABCOCK, D. D.

O Lord I pray

That for this day

I may not swerve

By foot or hand

From Thy command,

Not to be served, but to serve.

This too I pray,

That for this day

No love of ease

Nor pride prevent

My good intent

Not to be pleased, but to please.

And if I may,

I'd have this day

Strength from above

To set my heart

In heavenly art

Not to be loved, but to love.

—The Independent.

Suggestive

C. E. Jefferson, D. D.

All the best things in this world are scattered with a lavish hand, and we do not know how rich we are until we sit down to reckon up our treasures. The love of parents, the affection of brothers and sisters, the help of teachers, the sympathy of friends, the companionship of books, the gift of children, the joys of home are given to all sorts and conditions of men. If those you love and who love you have been spared to you another year, there ought to be a thanksgiving season in your home. What is any failure in business, or calamity in fortune, or disappointment in ambition, or weariness in labor or infirmity in health compared with the loss of a husband or wife or child? Into many a home death has come and a glory has vanished from the earth. But even in these homes there is reason for thanksgiving, and the sorrow should not be that of those who sorrow without hope. The promise of the life eternal is ours, and ours the expectation of a glad reunion.

Help for Daily Living

George Bowan.

Our need of God's help for the meeting of the petty vexations and the minor trials of our everyday life is as real as it is for the supreme struggle of our being in the final conflict with the arch enemy of our souls. And as to the relative measures of God's power requisite for our aiding, who shall say what is much or what is little for God to do? God is as ready to aid us in one time of need as in another. We can depend upon Him alike when to us our requirements seem great or seem small. He who will help us in our dying will help us also in our daily living. He knows your need. It seems to you that no one can know it, it is so vast. He knows it better than you do yourself. The multitude of your own aspirations are not present to you, are lost to you, but He has caught them all in His own vessel, and will see to it that all are duly fulfilled. He knows your need, your bodily and your social need, your intellectual need, your spiritual need, your need today, your need yesterday, and your need tomorrow. And He knows it that He may supply it.

Rite, Right, or Wright?

Sunday School Times.

Not to play too much on words, there yet is a truth that may be the less easily forgotten if we link together Rite, Right, and Wright. He that thinks religion is a matter of rites is one who has but a hollow, heathen conception of what God wants. The rite is no better than an empty eggshell, no better than a machine without steam, than a word without sincerity, than decorated china with nothing in it to eat. Religion demands another spelling—Right. That is the moral standard. It tells us what the will of God is, which must command our obedience. But religion is more than the knowing of God's will,—it is the doing of it. The old Anglo-